

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference PLB/CC/Y1746	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/04164	International filing date (day/month/year) 22.09.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 21.09.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B03C3/155		
Applicant PER-TEC LIMITED et al.		

1. This International preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, Including this cover sheet.
 - This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the opinion
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 01.03.2004	Date of completion of this report 24.08.2004
Name and mailing address of the International preliminary examining authority: European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Tatus, W Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2693



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB 03/04164

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-11 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-22 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/5-5/5 as originally filed

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

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5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1+10+12+13+14+15
	No: Claims	1,2,6,7,16,18,19,20,22
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1+10+12+13+14+15
	No: Claims	3-5,8,9,11,17,21
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-22
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB03/04164

Re Item V:

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanation supporting such statement

Subject-matter of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 16 , 18, 19, 20 and 22 is known from document WO 94/02719, see page 5, first and second paragraph and the figures 1 and 2.

These claims lack novelty according to Art. 33(2) PCT.

The subject-matter of the dependent claims 3 to 5, 8 , 9, 11, 17 and 21 concerns only details of a gas cleaning device which are either known from the documents cited in the search report or refers merely to details which are within the normal scope of measures for a person skilled in the art without performing an inventive step.

Therefore these dependent claims 3 to 5, 8, 9, 17 and 21 also do not fulfil the requirements of the PCT (Art. 33(3) PCT).

An embodiment of a gas cleaning device comprising the features of claims 1, 10 and 12 to 15 is neither known nor suggested by the available prior art and could form the basis of an independent claim which could fulfill the requirements of Article 33 PCT.

The **industrial applicability** of subject-matter of the claims 1 to 22 is evident (Art. 33(4) PCT).

Further should be taken into consideration:

- Independent claim 1 is not in the two-part form in accordance with Rule 6.3(b) PCT.
- The features of the claims are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).
- Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, no relevant background art is disclosed in the description.
- The general statements in the description on page 10, line 11 to page 1,1 line 7, are unclear, and when used to interpret the claims renders them also unclear, contrary to Article 6 PCT.

The statements should therefore be deleted.
